

**Listing of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A lacrosse head comprising:
  - a throat for receiving a handle;
  - a scoop distal from the throat;
  - a pair of sidewalls extending from the throat to the scoop each of the sidewalls having an upper portion and a lower portion;
  - a ball stop adjacent the throat; and
  - a pair of floating ribs corresponding to each of the pair of sidewalls, each of the floating ribs having a first end and a second end separated by a middle portion wherein the first end is joined proximal the throat and the second end is joined proximal the side wall and ~~a segment of~~ the middle portion is not attached to the sidewall between the first end and second end, each of the middle portions rising above the throat distal from the upper portion.
2. (Original) The lacrosse head of Claim 1 wherein the middle portion is attached to neither the sidewall nor the throat.

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3. (Original) The lacrosse head of Claim 1 wherein the floating rib creates a space between the floating rib and the sidewall.
4. (Original) The lacrosse head of Claim 1 wherein:  
each of the sidewalls having an inner edge; and  
the floating ribs having an inner portion, wherein the distance between the inner portions is greater than the distance between the inner edges.
5. (Currently Amended) The lacrosse head of Claim [[1]] 4 wherein each of the floating ribs includes an apex, the apex is further from the lower portion than the upper portion, and the distance between the inner portions is greater than the distance between the inner edges at the apex.
6. (Currently Amended) A floating rib attached to a lacrosse head having a throat for receiving a handle, a scoop distal from the throat, a pair of sidewalls extending from the throat to the scoop, each of the sidewalls having [[any]] a upper portion and a lower portion; and a ball stop adjacent the throat, the floating rib comprising a first end and a second end joined by a middle portion, the first end and

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the second end joined to the lacrosse head, and ~~a segment of the middle portion~~  
being unattached to the lacrosse head between the first end and second end.

7. (Currently Amended) The floating rib of Claim 6 ~~further comprising the middle portion unattached to the lacrosse head~~ wherein the floating rib is positioned substantially parallel to one of the side walls.

8. (Original) The floating rib of Claim 6 wherein the middle portion of the floating rib creates an open space between the floating rib and the lacrosse head.

9. (Currently Amended) The floating rib of Claim 6 further comprising an apex ~~[[that]]~~ positioned a greater distance from the lower portion of the sidewall than the upper portion of the sidewall is from the lower portion of the sidewall.

10. (Currently Amended) A pair of floating ribs attached to a lacrosse head having a throat for receiving a handle, a scoop distal from the throat, a pair of sidewalls each including an inner edge and extending from the throat to the scoop, ~~[[;]]~~ and a ball stop adjacent the throat, each of the floating ribs comprising a first end and a second end joined by a middle portion and an inner portion, the first

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end and the second end joined to the lacrosse head, and a segment of the middle portion unattached to the lacrosse head ~~the ribs and~~ having an apex [[that]] positioned a greater distance from a lower portion of the sidewall than from an upper portion of the sidewall ~~is from the lower portion of the sidewall, wherein the distance between the inner portions is greater than the distance between the inner edges at the apex.~~

11. (Original) The floating ribs of Claim 10 further comprising the middle portion unattached to the lacrosse head.
12. (Original) The floating ribs of Claim 10 wherein the middle portions of the floating ribs create an open space between the floating ribs and the lacrosse head.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently Amended) The floating ribs of Claim 10 ~~further each comprising an inner portion being apart a distance greater than the distance between inner portions of the sidewalls below the floating ribs~~ wherein the distance between the

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inner portions is greater than the distance between the inner edges along the middle portion.

15.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) The lacrosse head of claim 4 wherein the distance between the inner portions of the floating ribs is greater than the distance between the inner edges of the sidewalls between the ball stop and the second ends.